

Joel Gibson

Joel.Gibson20@gmail.com

Software Engineer with 3+ years commercial experience building production-scale Android applications serving hundreds of thousands of users. Experienced in architectural refactoring, authentication migrations, performance optimisation, and improving application stability at scale.

Work Experience

mkodo

Android Software Engineer
Graduate Android Software Engineer
United Kingdom

Sep 2023–Nov 2025
Sep 2022–Sep 2023

- Helped design and implement a heavily-modularised, **Jetpack Compose** Android application using **Hilt** and **Retrofit**, helping establish from the ground up a clean, scalable architecture based on **MVVM**.
- Led a 1.5-year initiative to replace a third-party authentication provider with **ForgeRock**, improving security by adding **MFA** and streamlining UX with revamped password reset and locked account recovery flows.
- Implemented in-app reviews, improving average app rating from 2.9 to 4.7 stars overnight.
- Delivered a major navigation refactor over a 4-week period, resolving 10+ long-standing bugs and reducing overall crash rate by approximately 20%.
- Reduced loading times for over 300,000 users by adding **caching** and optimising API calls using **coroutines**.
- Integrated RESTful APIs including for OAuth authentication, requiring secure storage of tokens and user credentials with **EncryptedSharedPreferences** and handling token refresh flows.
- Coordinated **Git branching strategies** on **GitLab** to streamline feature delivery and organise app releases.
- Managed releases through the **Google Play Console**, with exposure to the full release lifecycle from build generation to production rollout.
- Mentored junior and graduate developers, supporting onboarding and promoting best practices around **clean architecture**, **debugging**, and maintainable code.
- Used **Firebase Crashlytics** and logging tools to diagnose production issues and improve app stability.
- Worked closely with QA, BAs, and client stakeholders to deliver sprint goals, providing valuable insight in requirements discussions and regularly delivering client demos.

Technical Skills

Languages: Kotlin, Java

Technologies: Jetpack Compose, Hilt, Retrofit, JUnit, MockK, Coroutines, OkHttp

Developer Tools: Android Studio, Git, Jenkins, Google Play Console, Firebase Crashlytics, GitLab, GitHub

Other: Linux, Postman, Jira, Redmine

Education

BSc (Hons) Computer Science: **1st class degree from Newcastle University** (September 2019 - June 2022) Modules included: Distributed Systems; System and Network Security; Cryptography; and DevOps.

- Produced a decentralised application and 15,000 word dissertation paper titled **Using Blockchain to store and manage user privacy preferences** as a capstone project.
<https://github.com/JoeGibson20/SITAPreferencesManagement>
- Presented the findings to the Smart Infrastructures research group, part of Newcastle University's Secure and Resilient Systems group, discussing how the project could be used to preserve privacy within smart buildings.
- The findings were subsequently used in the conference paper **A Blockchain-Based Architecture to Manage User Privacy Preferences on Smart Shared Spaces Privately**.
https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-25734-6_9